

first gender-integrated class of new Marines, well in advance of the requirement in the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2020 for Marines to conduct integrated gender recruit training by 2028.

Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego accomplished that mission this year, demonstrating the can-do spirit that has animated the base since its establishment.

Our bill would prohibit the closure of the historic Marine Corps Recruit Depot located in San Diego. It would protect regional jobs and tourist revenue generated by the installation.

The bill would also eliminate the need for costly new military construction if the training mission were relocated, and prevent the disruption of families and training.

Lastly, the bill would guarantee the annual basic training for Marine recruits at the place where their fellow Marines have trained for a century. On the 100th anniversary of the installation, we must continue this critical mission in San Diego and preserve its history.

It is imperative to maintain facilities that train and prepare our Armed Forces to meet the challenges of tomorrow. The protection of the Depot preserves an important legacy of the Marine Corps. The installation also offers a strategic location to position forces in the West.

I hope my colleagues will join me in support of this bill. Thank you Mr. President. I yield the floor.

By Mr. PADILLA (for himself, Mr. PAUL, Mr. DURBIN, Ms. COLLINS, and Mr. COONS):

S. 2753. A bill to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to authorize lawful permanent resident status for certain college graduates who entered the United States as children, and for other purposes; to the Committee on the Judiciary.

Mr. President, I rise to introduce the "America's Children Act of 2021."

This legislation would ensure that dependents of immigrants in the green card backlog do not age out of their legal immigration status when they turn 21 and provides a pathway to permanency for these children and young adults.

WHAT THE BILL WOULD DO

This legislation would provide a pathway to permanent residency for dependents of nonimmigrant visa holders if they have been a dependent for at least 4 years, have lived in the United States for 10 years and have graduated from an institution of higher education in the United States.

The bill fills an important gap in our legal immigration system, since many immigrants and their families often have to wait decades to receive a green card due to numerical limitations and per country caps. The children who age out of dependent status have few options to stay in the United States once they turn 21 and even fewer paths to

permanency even though many have only known the United States as their home. It is unjust that these children and young people are at risk of deportation to their birth countries simply because our legal immigration system is outdated.

WHY THE BILL IS NEEDED

There are an estimated 255,000 children who are or were the dependents of parents with lawful work visas, currently awaiting their green card processing in the immigration backlog. All of these individuals are at risk of deportation at age 21 if their applications are not processed in time, or have already aged out of status.

This bill is a commonsense measure that ensures that children who have grown up in our communities and wish to go to a university and work in the United States have the opportunity to do so. Most of these individuals do not have close ties in their birth countries and removing them from the United States would mean separation from their families and the life they have always known.

Thank you Mr. President. I yield the floor.

SUBMITTED RESOLUTIONS

SENATE RESOLUTION 365—HONORING THE LIFE, LEGACY, AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF MACNOLIA COX

Mr. BROWN (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to:

Whereas MacNolia Cox (Montiere) was born on January 12, 1923, in Kenmore, Ohio, to her parents John Thomas Cox and Alberta (Evans) Key, and raised in Akron, Ohio;

Whereas MacNolia was a member of Livingston Baptist Church and, as a child, enjoyed reading the dictionary from A to Z to learn the definitions and spellings of words;

Whereas, in 1936, at the age of 13, MacNolia won the Akron Spelling Bee at the Akron Armory over the course of 2.5 hours, besting 50 other participants and becoming the first Black participant to win the competition;

Whereas MacNolia won the Akron Spelling Bee with the word "voluble" in front of 3,000 people, taking home a \$25 prize and a ticket to Washington, D.C., to compete in the Scripps National Spelling Bee;

Whereas, upon arriving in Washington, D.C., MacNolia was forced to stay in a segregated hotel and was not permitted sit with the other participants during the competition;

Whereas, during the competition, MacNolia was asked to spell the word "nemeses", which at the time was capitalized and therefore barred from the competition;

Whereas the use of this word in the competition was immediately protested by a Beacon Journal reporter, and despite learning 100,000 approved words, MacNolia misspelled the word and finished the competition fifth overall, taking home a \$75 prize;

Whereas, upon her return to Akron, MacNolia was greeted by a parade of hundreds of cars of community members, where local dignitaries made speeches on behalf of her success;

Whereas MacNolia went on to work as a domestic employee for a local doctor; and

Whereas MacNolia Cox Montiere died of cancer on September 12, 1976, at the age of 53, and was survived by her husband John, stepson Nelson Montiere, stepdaughter Joan Montiere Tabler, brother Otis Cox, sisters Orabell Finney, Rosa Lee Jackson, and Ollie Davis, and 1 granddaughter: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate honors the life, legacy, and achievements of MacNolia Cox, an inspiration for young students of color today.

SENATE RESOLUTION 366—EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR THE DESIGNATION OF THE WEEK OF SEPTEMBER 11 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 17 AS "PATRIOT WEEK"

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. KENNEDY) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary:

S. RES. 366

Whereas the events that led to the signing of the Constitution of the United States by the delegates to the Constitutional Convention on September 17, 1787, have significance for every citizen of the United States and are honored in public schools across the United States on Constitution Day, which is September 17 of each year;

Whereas the rule of law, the social compact, democracy, liberty, equality, and unalienable human rights are the essential values upon which the United States flourishes;

Whereas diversity is one of the greatest strengths of the United States, and the motto inscribed on the Great Seal of the United States, "E pluribus unum", Latin for "out of many, one", symbolizes that individuals in the United States from all walks of life are unified by shared values;

Whereas exceptional, visionary, and indispensable individuals such as Thomas Paine, Patrick Henry, John Adams, John Marshall, George Washington, Elizabeth Cady Stanton, Susan B. Anthony, Rosa Parks, Harriet Tubman, Abraham Lincoln, Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King, Jr., Thomas Jefferson, and James Madison founded or advanced the United States;

Whereas the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution of the United States, the Declaration of Sentiments and Resolutions signed in Seneca Falls, New York, the Gettysburg Address, the Emancipation Proclamation, and the "I Have a Dream" speech delivered by Martin Luther King, Jr., express sentiments that have advanced liberty in the United States; and

Whereas the Bennington flag (commonly known as the "'76 flag"), the Betsy Ross flag, the current flag of the United States, the flag of the women's suffrage movement, the Union flag (commonly known as the "Fort Sumter flag"), the Gadsden flag, and the flags of the States are physical symbols of the history of the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Senate—

(1) supports the designation of the week of September 11 through September 17 as "Patriot Week";

(2) recognizes that understanding the history of the United States and the first principles of the United States is indispensable to the survival of the United States as a free people;

(3) acknowledges, in great reverence to the victims of the September 11, 2001, attacks, that citizens of the United States should take time to honor the first principles, founders, documents, and symbols of their history;